

## **Review of 'Incredible India' by Chris Upton ARPS**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

<https://www.chrisuptonphotography.com/>

A welcome return by Chris Upton a professional photographer, based in Nottinghamshire, specialising in Travel, Landscape and Social Documentary photography. Chris had been our first external speaker via 'Zoom' in May of this year and we were so impressed that we invited him back.

Chris did not disappoint as comments from our members showed: "Thank you Chris, not only do you present us with such wonderful photographs and storytelling we get tips and tuition on how to take a photo."; "Thanks Chris for a splendid presentation." Three members from Exeter U3A committee joined us for this session and they also remarked on how much they had enjoyed Chris' presentation.

Chris had set out to capture 'life on the street' and he certainly gave us a flavour of the labyrinth of streets and little alley ways and all the amazing sights with his wide variety of photographs. A guard engrossed in reading his newspaper was well composed as was a young boy sitting amongst a display of vegetables. Chris always thinks about the best angle to take a photograph as shown in his photograph of Mr M.G. Spice in this case captured low down so that we can see the huge container of colourful spice leading us up to Mr M.G proudly sitting amongst his bowls of spice.

Looking up with his camera we could admire the 953 windows covering the lace-like facade of the 'Hawa Mahal' Palace of the Winds in Jaipur, the largest city in Rajasthan. Looking down this time as a contrast we had a bird's eye view of the flower sellers with their wonderful display of pink and orange flowers. Vibrant colours were evident in many of Chris' high quality photos as we saw with the many different coloured saris drying alongside the 'Ladies bathing tank'.

In many of Chris' portraits we could see how well he had focused on people's eyes really capturing the attention of the viewer in his portrait shots. Chris showed us a series of wonderful scenes at the camel fayre in Pushkar in the state of Rajasthan. Fill in flash was used to highlight the man bringing in the camels and he had taken a photograph of the lady collecting camel dung; so well seen and brilliantly captured. To end we saw a beautiful silhouette of the camel herders leaving us with a real insight into Chris' travels.

Thank you Chris.

Review by Christine Chittock,

Exmouth and District U3A Chair and Speakers' Coordinator